

Appl. No. 09/880,883
Amdt. Dated September 24, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 17, 18 and 22 to 26. Please amend claims 14, 19 to 21 and add new claims 27 and 28 as shown below. Claim 15 and 16 remain pending as previously added.

1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The shear wall panel of claim 19 for a building

~~(i) outer rectangle members comprising,~~

~~a) a pair of spaced apart vertical members having upper ends and lower ends;~~

~~b) an upper horizontal member extending between and secured to the upper ends of the vertical members; and,~~

~~c) a lower horizontal member extending between and secured to the lower ends of the vertical members~~

~~wherein the outer rectangle members form an outer rectangle; and,~~

~~(ii) wherein the multi-segmented assembly comprises inner polygon members comprising,~~

~~d) at least four continuous diagonal members secured together end to end to form an inner polygon having at least a first, a second, a third and a fourth vertex,~~

wherein

(ie) the inner polygon is located inside of the outer rectangle;

(iif) the ends of the diagonal members of the first vertex are secured to one of the vertical members;

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(iii) the ends of the diagonal members of the second vertex are secured to the upper horizontal member;

(iv) the ends of the diagonal members of the third vertex and are secured to the other vertical member;

(v) the ends of the diagonal members of the fourth vertex are secured to the lower horizontal member; and,

(vi) when more than four continuous diagonal members are present, any remaining ends of the continuous diagonal members are secured to a first end of an extender member wherein the extender member has a second end secured to at least one outer rectangle members at a corner of the outer rectangle; and,

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~~(k) vertically oriented connectors connected to the vertical members and adapted to each be secured to a rod extending upwards from a foundation or laterally stabilized wall or floor of the building below the shear wall panel near each of the vertical members wherein the vertically oriented connectors are located adjacent to the first and third vertices.~~

15. (Previously added) The shear wall panel of claim 14 wherein the ends of the diagonal members of the first, second, third and fourth vertices are secured to one of the horizontal or vertical members at about the midpoint of the one of the horizontal or vertical members.

16. (Previously added) The shear wall panel of claim 14 wherein the vertically oriented connectors are wedge shaped blocks located above the first and third vertices.

17-18 (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A shear wall panel for a building comprising,

(i) outer rectangle members comprising,

a) a pair of spaced apart vertical members having upper ends and lower ends;

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b) an upper horizontal member extending between and secured to the upper ends of the vertical members; and,
c) a lower horizontal member extending between and secured to the lower ends of the vertical members

wherein the outer rectangle members form an outer rectangle; and,

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(II) a multi-segmented assembly comprising a plurality of inner members secured together end to end, the multi-segmented assembly having vertices secured to the outer rectangle and being adapted to resist lateral forces applied to the shear wall panel; and, inner polygon members comprising, d) four continuous diagonal members secured together end to end to form an inner polygon having at least a first, a second, a third and a fourth vertex,

wherein (e) the inner polygon is located inside of the outer rectangle;

(f) the ends of the diagonal members of the first vertex are secured to one of the vertical members;

(g) the ends of the diagonal members of the second vertex are secured to the upper horizontal member;

(h) the ends of the diagonal members of the third vertex are secured to the other vertical member;

(i) the ends of the diagonal members of the fourth vertex are secured to the lower horizontal member; and,

(III) vertically oriented connectors connected to the vertical members and adapted to each be secured to a rods extending upwards from a foundation or laterally stabilized wall or floor of the building below the shear wall panel near the vertical members wherein the vertically oriented connectors are located adjacent to the first and third vertices vertices of the multi-segmented assembly which are adjacent to the vertical members.

20. (Currently amended) The shear wall panel of claim 4928 wherein the ends of the diagonal members of the first, second, third and fourth vertices are secured to one of

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Am 4 the horizontal or vertical members at about the midpoint of the one of the horizontal or vertical members.

21. (Currently amended) The shear wall panel of claim 19 wherein the vertically oriented connectors are wedge shaped blocks located above the first and third vertices.

22-26 (Cancelled)

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B1 27. (New) The shear wall panel of claim 19 wherein the multi-segmented assembly comprises inner polygon members further comprising at least four diagonal members secured together end to end to form an inner polygon having at least a first, a second, a third and a fourth vertex wherein (i) the inner polygon is located inside of the outer rectangle, (ii) the ends of the diagonal members of the first vertex are secured to one of the vertical members, (iii) the ends of the diagonal members of the second vertex are secured to the upper horizontal member, (iv) the ends of the diagonal members of the third vertex are secured to the other vertical member and the ends of the diagonal members of the fourth vertex are secured to the lower horizontal member.

28. (New) The shear wall panel of claim 27 having a first diagonal member extending from the first vertex to the second vertex, a second diagonal member extending from the second vertex to the third vertex, a third diagonal member extending from the third vertex to the fourth vertex and a fourth diagonal member extending from the fourth vertex to the first vertex.